UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/50/407
6 September 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fiftieth session
Items 18, 96, 97, 98, 99, 106,
110 and 114 of the provisional agenda*

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

MACROECONOMIC POLICY QUESTIONS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION

INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

Note verbale dated 5 September 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations has the honour to refer to the Inaugural Summit of the Association of Caribbean States, which was held at Port-of-Spain on 17 and 18 August 1995, and which had as its main focus the areas of tourism, trade and transportation.

* A/50/150.

The Chargé d'affaires has the honour to request the assistance of the Secretary-General in circulating the text of the Communiqué of the Summit (annex I) and the Declaration of Principles on Tourism, Trade and Transportation and Plan of Action (annex II) as a document of the General Assembly under items 18, 96, 97, 98, 99, 106, 110 and 114.

ANNEX I

Communiqué of the Summit

The Inaugural Summit of Heads of State and Government and representatives of the States, countries and territories of the Association met at Port-of-Spain on 17 and 18 August 1995. The Summit was preceded by a Meeting of Officials, on 14 and 15 August, and a Ministerial Meeting, on 16 and 17 August.

All the Meetings took place in an atmosphere of cordiality, collaboration and mutual understanding.

The Summit was attended by the Honourable Lester Bird, Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Antigua and Barbuda; the Honourable Owen Arthur, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs of Barbados; the Rt. Honourable Manuel Esquivel, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Economic Development of Belize; His Excellency Dr. Fidel Castro, President of the Republic of Cuba; the Honourable Edison James, Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs, Legal Affairs and Labour of the Commonwealth of Dominica; the Honourable Keith Mitchell, Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs of Grenada; His Excellency Dr. Cheddi Jagan, President of the Republic of Guyana; the Rt. Honourable Percival J. Patterson, Prime Minister of Jamaica; His Excellency Mr. Ernesto Zedillo, President of Mexico; the Honourable Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, President of the Republic of Nicaragua; the Honourable Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister of Saint Kitts and Nevis; the Rt. Honourable John Compton, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Planning and Development of Saint Lucia; the Rt. Honourable Sir James Mitchell, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; His Excellency Dr. Runaldo R. Venetiaan, President of the Republic of Suriname; the Honourable Patrick Manning, Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago; and His Excellency Dr. Rafael Caldera, President of the Republic of Venezuela. In addition to the Heads of State and Government, other representatives were the Honourable Hubert Hughes, Chief Minister of Anguilla; the Honourable R. Croes, Vice Minister of Aruba; the Honourable C. A. Smith, Minister of Public Safety and Immigration of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas; the Honourable Rodrigo Pardo, Minister of External Relations of the Republic of Colombia; the Honourable Fernando Naranjo, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Costa Rica; the Honourable Carlos Morales Troncoso, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic; the Honourable Victor Manuel Lagos Pizatti, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of El Salvador; the Honourable Alejandro Maldonado Aguirre, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Guatemala; the Honourable Claudette Werleigh, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Haiti; General Walter Lopez Reyes, Vice President of the Republic of Honduras; His Excellency Mr. Gabriel Lewis Galindo, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Panama; the Honourable Lucette Michaux Chevry, President of the Regional Council of Guadeloupe, Captain I. A. L. Chance, Minister of Transport of the Netherlands Antilles; and the Honourable Derek Taylor, Chief Minister of the Turks and Caicos Islands.

At this historic and ground-breaking Summit, the Heads of State and Government adopted a Declaration of Principles and a Plan of Action, which

emphasized a commitment to the initiation of a new era in the wider Caribbean region characterized by the strengthening of integration, consultation and concerted action in order to ensure greater cultural, economic, political, scientific, social and technological cooperation among the peoples, Governments and countries of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS).

The Heads of State and Government commit themselves to work in a climate of respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of their States, the right of their peoples to self-determination, the rule of law, the adherence to democratic principles, human rights and the peaceful resolution of disputes.

Of fundamental importance is the shared perception with respect to the need to create a more competitive and viable economic space and to strengthen the capacity of the ACS membership to implement commitments in other domains and to advance the general development and prosperity of the peoples of ACS while confronting the challenges and opportunities presented by the globalization of the world economy, increased trade liberalization and the need for cooperation in order to promote investment and wider markets in the region.

The Heads of State and Government were conscious of the fact that the prime objective of their efforts must be aimed at improving the standard of living of their people and, in particular, at effectively combating the critical state of poverty in which a large part of them exist, and that they must commit themselves to promote the sustainable development of the region, as a viable strategy aimed at improving these conditions.

The Heads of State and Government recognized that the historical and cultural diversity of the States, countries and territories of the Association provides a solid basis for developing their efforts at cooperation and concerted action within the Association of Caribbean States in the areas, inter alia, of tourism, trade and transportation, as well as for contributing to overcoming the separateness of the past, to the benefit of their peoples and countries.

In the area of tourism, the Heads of State and Government recognized the strategic importance of that industry and the need to develop a regional tourism strategy that draws strength from cooperation, without sacrificing the interests of individual States, countries and territories or the appeal of individual national tourism products, stressing diversity and economies of scale as key aspects of the Association of Caribbean States tourism product.

The importance of environmental conservation cooperation between the public and private sectors and the establishment of linkages with other economic sectors are also emphasized as key aspects of the management of the tourism sector.

With respect to trade, the Heads of State and Government are conscious that increased trade and investment among the Association of Caribbean States members will provide new and enlarged markets and create opportunities for the improvement of the region's competitiveness globally.

The difficulties involved in harmonizing the rules and disciplines of trade services and investment are recognized and in that context the Heads of State

and Government have instructed the secretariat of the Association of Caribbean States to execute a number of specific measures to ensure progress in the areas of trade liberalization; trade and investment promotion and facilitation; inter-institutional cooperation and the overall follow-up and implementation of the Plan of Action.

Concerning transportation, the Heads of State and Government stressed the importance of the principles of easy access and equal opportunity to affordable air and maritime transportation as indispensable factors in the economic integration of the States, countries and territories of the Association of Caribbean States.

In this regard, the ultimate goal is articulated to be the provision of a sustainable, efficient, profitable, readily differentiated and significantly higher quality service to the travelling and cargo-shipping communities at reasonable rates.

The Heads of State and Government have adopted the Plan of Action as a collection of integrated and closely related measures to advance the development of the Association of Caribbean States region and committed the Association of Caribbean States membership to its timely and effective implementation.

The First Ministerial Council of the Association of Caribbean States met on the morning of 17 August 1995 and selected Trinidad and Tobago as the headquarters of the Association. At that meeting, Dr. Simón Molina Duarte, of Venezuela, was elected Secretary-General.

The Council elected Mexico as its Chairman for a period of one year. Guatemala will be the host of the next Ministerial Council meeting, which is scheduled to take place in late November 1995.

The Heads of State and Government have expressed their gratitude to the Government and People of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the excellent arrangements made for the hosting of this important meeting.

ANNEX II

Declaration of principles on tourism, trade and transportation and plan of action

We, the Heads of State and Government and representatives of the States, countries and territories participating in this Inaugural Summit of the Association of Caribbean States, at Port-of-Spain on 17 and 18 August 1995, express satisfaction at the entry into force of the Convention establishing the Association of Caribbean States. We agree to issue the following declaration of Principles on Tourism, Trade and Transportation:

1. We are firmly committed to initiating a new era in the Caribbean region characterized by the strengthening of integration, concerted action and consultation in order to ensure greater cultural, economic, political, scientific, social and technological cooperation among our peoples, Governments and countries;

2. We commit our States, countries and territories to pursuing the promotion of this process in a climate of respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of our States, the right of our peoples to self-determination, the rule of law, the adherence to democratic principles, the observance of human rights and the peaceful resolution of disputes;

3. We reaffirm our commitment to the common objectives within the hemispheric systems and those of the United Nations. We are convinced that our efforts within the Association of Caribbean States will create a more competitive and viable economic space, strengthen our capacity to implement our commitments in other domains and advance the general development and prosperity of our principles;

4. We reiterate that cooperation among the States, countries and territories of the Association of Caribbean States provides an ideal mechanism and affords a unique opportunity for responding to the challenges and opportunities presented by the globalization of the world economy, increased trade liberalization and competition for investment and markets;

5. We are fully cognizant of the fact that the shared historical and cultural heritage of the States, countries and territories of our Association provides a solid basis for developing our efforts at cooperation and concerted action, particularly in the areas of tourism, trade and transportation, as well as for enriching our future to the benefit of all our peoples;

6. Conscious of the fact that the prime objective of our efforts must be aimed at improving the standard of living of our people and, in particular, at effectively combating the critical state of poverty in which a large part of them exist, we commit ourselves to promote the sustainable development of our region as a viable strategy aimed at improving these conditions;

7. We consider that, in the current conditions, tourism, trade and transportation constitute three critical sectors which should be accorded

priority in our concerted actions to promote cooperation, thus advancing the development of our peoples and laying the foundation for progress in other areas of interest to the members of the Association;

8. Convinced that the natural endowment and cultural diversity and heritage of the Caribbean make it an attractive tourist destination and that the tourism sector is vital to the economies of our States, countries and territories, we commit ourselves to unite efforts and actions aimed at increasing the tourist flow to and within the Caribbean, at improving tourism infrastructure and preserving the environment;

9. We reaffirm our commitment to the principles enshrined in the Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization as a basis for developing free trade among all nations. We recognize the vital contribution which increased trade can make to the economic development of our States, countries and territories and are therefore opposed to all policies, measures and actions which are inimical to these principles;

10. We are keenly aware that the development of our tourism industry, as well as our trade in goods and other services, requires the development of efficient and viable air, sea and land transport systems. In this regard, we commit ourselves to taking concerted and expeditious action;

11. Cognizant of the significant differences in levels of development, size and population among our States, countries and territories, we will accordingly seek means to foster development and provide opportunities to facilitate the participation of all States, countries and territories in the integration of the Caribbean;

12. We reaffirm the importance attached to the Caribbean Sea, the role it has played in our history and the development of tourism, trade and transportation, as well as its potential for contributing to the development of our peoples and States, countries and territories. We are therefore determined to ensure its protection and conservation, on an environmentally sound and sustainable basis, as the common patrimony of all the peoples of the Caribbean;

13. We recognize that the production and consumption of illegal drugs, as well as narcotics trafficking in all its aspects, pose a serious threat to tourism, trade and transportation. Indeed, it endangers the sovereignty and security of each State. In the light of this, we pledge to strengthen cooperation within the region to combat the drug menace which seeks constantly to undermine good order and social stability;

14. We recognize that there is significant scope for growth of tourism, trade and transportation as a means of advancing development and economic integration within the ACS region. We recognize also that the full realization of this potential is critically dependent on our public and private sectors being able to cooperate to address the challenges and constraints as well as to exploit the synergy in the three areas.

To advance this process, we agree to adopt and implement the following plan of action:

Plan of action

Tourism

We affirm that the tourism industry constitutes the major vehicle of development for many of the States, countries and territories of the Association of Caribbean States and are aware that it is not only the single economic activity common to all, but also a priority economic sector for all our membership.

Keenly aware that tourism is a strategic industry which is operating in a highly competitive environment, we perceive the need for a regional tourism strategy that draws strengthen from cooperation without sacrificing the interest of individual States, countries and territories or the appeal of individual national tourism products. We are cognizant of the fact that our region has considerable advantages in tourism since we offer a product which is like the world in microcosm. Presented as a single tourism product, the ACS destination has the advantages of both diversity and economies of scale.

We recognize that tourism is an industry which is highly dependent on the environment and that the quality, competitiveness and sustainability of this sector are inextricably linked to the conservation of the Caribbean's human, natural and man-made environment.

We are conscious of the need to give prominence to tourism in the national planning process and to strengthen public sector/private sector cooperation in managing the tourism sector. We further recognize the industry's potential to create linkages with other economic sectors and to stimulate higher levels of economic growth and development in our States, countries and territories.

We therefore agree,

With respect to tourism planning:

(a) To ensure that tourism is fully integrated into our national planning process;

(b) To strengthen the role of regional and national organizations in the ACS States, countries and territories and to promote the incorporation of its members in the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO), with the purpose of coordinating efforts in the development of tourism;

(c) To promote cooperation among all public and private sector tourism entities within the ACS member States, countries and territories, with a view to maintaining the Caribbean region as the preferred tourism destination.

With respect to environmental sustainability:

(d) To require the execution of appropriate levels of environmental impact assessment as a precondition for all tourism development projects;

(e) To incorporate in our tourism policies measures that address issues of environmental sensitivity and national cultural heritage through educational and developmental programmes, and adopt and enforce appropriate legislation to encourage responsible practices in respect thereof;

(f) To consider the adoption of the Charter of Margarita, approved at the Fifth CTO Ecotourism Conference, held at Margarita island, Venezuela, in June 1995, taking into account national legislation;

(g) To declare the Caribbean a "green area" and invite the appropriate regional and international agencies to cooperate with us to develop and implement programmes to achieve this objective.

With respect to visitors' safety:

(h) To adopt appropriate measures to provide for the safety of visitors, with the objective of guaranteeing the development and growth of tourism;

(i) To develop crisis management and damage control strategies in the event of major natural disasters;

(j) To strongly deplore the inappropriate use of travel advisories by non-ACS States, with the purpose of reducing tourism competitiveness in ACS States, countries, and territories, and to develop mechanisms by which Governments can monitor and respond to such travel advisories.

With respect to regional marketing:

(k) To promote the region as a single destination with unique national products and encourage the free flow of tourists to and within all ACS States, countries and territories. To this end, we shall establish, based on the successful public/private sector Caribbean Coalition on Tourism Marketing Programme for North America, broad-based regional marketing programmes and joint representation in the major markets, including the intra-Caribbean market, on a sustainable basis, and develop, not later than the end of 1995, a financing arrangement to sustain this initiative. In order to facilitate the implementation of such programmes, we will review and modify, as necessary, the structure of the Caribbean Coalition on Tourism.

With respect to profitability:

(l) To promote tourism industry performance surveys for the ACS region on an ongoing basis and to seek financing from the public and private sectors to this end;

(m) To develop appropriate policies to retain and attract investment and to improve the efficiency and competitiveness of the tourism sector of the region.

With respect to human resources:

(n) To accept the offer of the Government of Mexico to establish a regional programme for education, training and research in sustainable tourism, based at the Universidad de Quintana Roo, Mexico, aimed at widening efforts to develop human resources that will increase the competitiveness and quality of tourist services in the Caribbean region;

(o) To create within the next three months a Caribbean Tourism Education and Training Council, with the following terms of reference:

(i) To examine the manpower needs of the region and review the number and type of public and private sector institutions in the ACS region which are currently involved in tourism training;

(ii) To ascertain what types of certification in tourism are available at all tourism training institutions throughout the ACS region and the extent to which they are acceptable and transferable between the various States, countries and territories and to create a directory of ACS-wide travel and tourism institutions and professionals;

(iii) To consider the adoption of the recommendations of the University of the West Indies' report on tertiary education in tourism, with respect to expansion and rationalization of institutions, transferability of credits, post-graduate training in the region, language training and certification and the provision of financial support required for implementation;

(iv) To find a coordination mechanism between the institutions of higher education to deal with setting and monitoring of educational standards and levels of certification, within the colleges and universities in the region;

(v) To establish job performance standards leading to the certification of knowledge and skills of professionals, which is recognized throughout the region and which will facilitate the free movement of tourism professionals, in accordance with the legislation currently in force in each country;

(vi) To examine the offer of the Government of Mexico, with a view to ensuring that it complements the existing programmes.

With respect to financing:

(p) To establish a task force in order to prepare a detailed draft proposal for a Caribbean regional tourism development fund, which shall be submitted to the next meeting of the ACS Council of Ministers. It would include, if necessary, the fund's legal, administrative and management structure, as well as its relations with the multilateral financial institutions. No ACS State, country or territory shall be excluded for social or political reasons from any of the benefits of the Fund.

Trade

We are convinced that greater trade and investment links among our States, countries and territories will provide new markets and create opportunities to improve our competitiveness globally.

We recognize that progress in trade facilitation and liberalization will play a key role in enhancing our economic space but will require harmonization of the rules and disciplines of trade, services and investment in our region.

We recognize, however, the complexities of liberalizing trade and harmonizing rules among States, countries and territories as diverse as those of the ACS region.

We agree to instruct the secretariat of the Association of Caribbean States,

With respect to trade liberalization:

(a) To promote measures for economic integration, including trade liberalization, investments, transportation and other related areas, among the ACS members;

(b) To assist member countries, in collaboration with other relevant regional organizations, in the ongoing process of negotiations for trade liberalization and integration at the regional, hemispheric and global levels;

(c) To collect and disseminate among the members of ACS information regarding the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization on its implementation in each ACS State, with a view to assisting the process of regional integration.

With respect to trade and investment promotion and facilitation:

(d) To promote and facilitate the active participation of the regional business community in trade and investment events, especially those that take place within the region;

(e) To facilitate meetings of the national and regional public and private sectors to discuss and resolve, in practical terms, methods of sourcing within the region as many goods and services as possible for the hotels, cruise lines and other tourism facilities;

(f) To devise schemes to encourage tourism enterprises to purchase increased levels of regional goods and services to be consumed by visitors;

(g) To design and implement a mechanism for the exchange of information on trade and investment patterns and opportunities, establish or improve the linkages among the various information systems and promote their use;

(h) To examine the possibilities of establishing a reciprocal payment and credit system among the ACS countries, taking into account existing systems,

such as the Latin American Integration Association and the Central American Common Market.

With respect to inter-institutional cooperation:

(i) To seek active participation in the activities of the group of secretariats of regional and subregional integration and cooperation organizations regarding the efforts towards harmonization of trade rules and regulations.

With respect to follow-up and implementation of the Plan of Action:

(i) We charge the Trade and External Economic Relations Committee of ACS with following up and implementing the Plan of Action regarding trade.

Transportation

We recognize the importance of the principles of easy access and equal opportunity to affordable air and maritime transportation, and that they are indispensable for the economic integration of our States, countries and territories. The advancement of these principles can be greatly assisted by the liberalization and facilitation of trade, the cost-effective and easy movement of goods, services and people and the stimulation and promotion of investment among our States, countries and territories.

We also recognize that the development of a safe, efficient and effective transport system is an indispensable element in the facilitation of trade among ACS States, countries and territories, as well as the movement of people throughout the ACS region, thus transcending the separateness of the past and ensuring extraregional links and multi-destination possibilities in the framework of the actual agreements and relations among ACS States, countries and territories.

We are aware that there are myriad problems to be overcome in order to develop an effective transportation system and that, given our resource constraints, services and facilities will have to be enhanced incrementally and through a variety of means.

We are conscious of the fact that the ultimate aim is to provide a sustainable, efficient, profitable, readily differentiated and significantly higher-quality service to the travelling and cargo-shipping communities at reasonable tariffs.

We therefore agree,

With respect to shipping services:

(a) To combine the efforts of our public and private sectors to determine and meet the requirements for, and enhance the possibilities of, establishing non-vessel operating common carriers (NVOCCs). In this regard, we will jointly examine the feasibility of pursuing the recommendation made in the Caribbean

Community Group of Three transport study for the establishment of a joint Government/private sector NVOCC on an ACS-wide basis;

(b) To discuss with the shipping lines the nature of the inducement that would be required to provide service, from hub ports to secondary ports, and to take the agreed measures that fall within the responsibility of the public sector;

(c) To promote the development of inter-modal transportation in the region, which will bring new possibilities for maritime investments to make this service more efficient and competitive;

(d) To encourage the shipping lines to work together to expand the range of on-carriage arrangements among themselves and to make these more widely known to potential shippers;

(e) To examine novel approaches to providing regular intra-ACS commercial services, including the Venezuelan initiative of using a navy ship to transport commercial cargo to the small ports of the eastern Caribbean.

With respect to the provision of port services:

(f) To encourage and assist our port authorities and worker organizations to address the issue of port costs and efficiency through, inter alia, modernizing payments and reward systems, training and redeployment of labour and the reduction of unnecessary bureaucratic requirements;

(g) To examine the future scope and role of the public and private sectors in the provision of port services, with a view to ensuring the adoption of the most efficient and cost-effective arrangements;

(h) To assist our port authorities to cooperate and collaborate more actively among themselves within existing institutional arrangements such as the Inter-American Ports and Harbours Conference, the Port Management Association of Eastern Caribbean States, the Central American Maritime Transport Commission, the Caribbean Shipping Association and the Permanent Technical Committee on Ports of the Organization of American States. As a priority, we urge them to focus attention on:

(i) The simplification and streamlining of documentation requirements in our various ports to facilitate the movement of goods, services and people by sea, with specific reference to the provisions of the Convention on the Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic, 1965, as amended;

(ii) The identification of areas of cooperation to reduce costs and improve efficiency, particularly in minimizing the time and costs to shippers and ship operators. In this context, we encourage them to explore the possibilities of joint venture and other forms of economic association in areas such as training, port facilities development and utilization;

(iii) The establishment of an appropriate electronic data interchange (EDI) information system to link ports, shippers and shipping lines in the ACS region.

With respect to air transportation:

(i) To examine the regulatory and operational framework that exists within the ACS States, countries and territories, including the nature and content of our bilateral air transport agreements, our obligations to our air carriers and the overall attitude of ACS States, countries and territories on contemporary significant air transport policy matters, as well as the need for adequate safeguards and safety nets for the protection of ACS members as developing States, countries and territories;

(j) To evaluate the potential air access benefits that could arise from the negotiation of certain air services agreements on a group basis using the community of interest principle of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO);

(k) To give favourable consideration, where feasible, to the use of the community of interest principle as a means of improving both intraregional and extraregional air access arrangements;

(l) To sensitize the authorities and management of airports to the economic benefits and convenience of improving facilitation by implementing the standards and recommended practices of annex 9 to the Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation and other initiatives and to urge them to become more proactive in this area;

(m) To examine the scope for the removal of, and take action, where possible, to eliminate or simplify, visa requirements for intraregional travel by residents of ACS States, countries and territories;

(n) To encourage our aeronautical authorities to join and collaborate actively among themselves in the existing institutions such as the Latin American Civil Aviation Commission;

(o) To encourage ACS airlines to develop regular contacts, in order to build on initiatives already in train, to increase cooperation and enhance their competitiveness and viability and call on them to work towards:

(i) Continuous improvements in the integration of intra-ACS airline schedules and route systems;

(ii) Facilitating the provision of, and equal access to, a unified reservation system to the market-place. In this context, we suggest that, as a priority, the ACS airlines invite competitive tenders from the computerized reservation systems and distribution systems to host the schedules of ACS airlines as one unit, using state-of-the-art technology;

(iii) Adopting a joint approach for the acquisition of a common yield management programme;

(iv) Exploring the possibilities of using Latin pass, or any other frequent-flyer programme, as a vehicle for the full exploitation of a broad scope of functional cooperation programmes for ACS airlines;

(v) Exploring the possibilities for fleet rationalization and joint aircraft acquisition and joint approaches to financial sources for all ACS States, countries and territories;

(vi) Enhancing cost-effectiveness by undertaking negotiations in such areas as engineering and maintenance management information systems; insurance placement; duty-free programmes; crew hotel accommodation; and general management information systems;

(p) To discuss with airlines the nature of the inducement that would be required to provide service from hub airports to secondary airports and take the agreed measures that fall within the responsibility of the public sector.

With respect to the safety of aircraft and sea craft and related port facilities:

(q) To identify the crucial international conventions relating to ships and shipping operations and to implement those conventions as early as possible within an agreed harmonized framework, and take all other appropriate steps, in conjunction with established regional and international programmes, to promote maritime safety and the protection of the marine environment of ACS States, countries and territories from vessel-caused pollution;

(r) To examine the feasibility of broadening participation in the draft Caribbean agreement on port state control to include all ACS States, countries and territories;

(s) To give major attention to the issue of safety. In this context, we stress the necessity of promoting the implementation of the standards and recommended practices established by the International Civil Aviation Organization. We recognize ICAO as the overall authority on safety and its oversight and call on all States parties to support the role of ICAO in this area of its responsibility. To this end, we commit ourselves to make every effort to attend the September 1995 ICAO General Assembly and to jointly reaffirm this principle at that forum;

(t) To work collectively towards the implementation of improved air safety oversight programmes, where required, and urge ICAO to assist the efforts of ACS States, countries and territories in this matter;

(u) To assist and support one another, to the extent possible, in the relationship with other agencies to ensure that our airlines and aircraft receive fair treatment by those bodies.

With respect to human resources and training:

(v) To encourage greater collaboration among the relevant transportation-related training institutions in order to increase the number of skilled personnel available for employment in the transportation industry;

(w) To explore the possibilities of providing fellowships to trainees from one another's States, countries and territories, and other mechanisms to promote practical training and attachments;

(x) To call on the International Maritime Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization and other relevant agencies to provide technical assistance in the areas where requested.

With regard to the follow-up to and implementation of the Plan of Action:

(y) To establish, within the framework of the ACS arrangements, a technical group on transportation. This group will develop specific programmes to promote the maritime, air and inter-modal transportation objectives outlined in the present Plan of Action.

Cross-sectoral and institutional issues

We recognize the opportunities inherent in the interrelationship of the sectors of tourism, trade and transportation and the issues which are common to them. We accordingly agree,

With respect to information and statistics:

(a) To implement cooperative programmes to develop and strengthen our systems for the collection and dissemination of timely and accurate statistics on tourism, trade and transportation.

With respect to optimizing intersectoral linkages:

(b) To request the ACS secretariat to identify and propose concrete ways of achieving a greater interrelationship between tourism, trade and transportation, in collaboration with the relevant organizations, with the objectives of increasing complementarities among the ACS States, countries and territories in those sectors and providing further impetus to the economic integration of ACS members.

With respect to external support:

(c) To request relevant regional, hemispheric and international agencies to assist our implementation by providing financial and technical assistance, where required.

Done at Port-of-Spain, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, this eighteenth day of August 1995 in a single copy in the English, French and Spanish languages, each text being equally authentic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the representatives duly authorized in that regard have signed this document:

(Signed) Lester BIRD
for the Government of Antigua and Barbuda

(Signed) Owen ARTHUR
for the Government Barbados

(Signed) Rodrigo PARDO
for the Government of the Republic of Colombia

(Signed) Fidel CASTRO
for the Government of the Republic of Cuba

(Signed) Carlos MORALES TRONCOSO
for the Government of the Dominican Republic

(Signed) Keith MITCHELL
for the Government of Grenada

(Signed) Cheddi JAGAN
for the Government of the Republic of Guyana

(Signed) Walter LOPEZ REYES
for the Government of the Republic of Honduras

(Signed) Violetta BARRIOS DE CHAMORRO
for the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua

(Signed) Denzil DOUGLAS
for the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis

(Signed) James MITCHELL
for the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines

(Signed) Patrick MANNING
for the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

(Signed) C. A. SMITH
for the Government of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas

(Signed) Manuel ESQUIVEL
for the Government of Belize

(Signed) Fernando NARANJO
for the Government of the Republic of Costa Rica

(Signed) Edison JAMES
for the Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica

(Signed) Victor Manuel LAGOS PIZATTI
for the Government of the Republic of El Salvador

(Signed) Alejandro MALDONADO AGUIRRE
for the Government of the Republic of Guatemala

(Signed) Claudette WERLEIGH
for the Government of the Republic of Haiti

(Signed) Percival J. PATTERSON
for the Government of Jamaica

(Signed) Orlando BARROW
for the Government of the Republic of Panama

(Signed) John COMPTON
for the Government of Saint Lucia

(Signed) Runaldo R. VENETIAAN
for the Government of the Republic of Suriname

(Signed) Ernesto ZEDILLO
for the Government of the United Mexican States

(Signed) Rafael CALDERA
for the Government of the Republic of Venezuela

In addition to the above States, the below-mentioned States, countries and territories participating in this Inaugural Summit of the Heads of State and representatives of the States, countries and territories of the Association of Caribbean States, have signed this document:

(Signed) Hubert HUGHES
for the Government of Anguilla

(Signed) R. CROES
for the Government of Aruba

(Signed) Lucette Michaux CHEVRY
for the Government of the French Republic (in respect of Guadeloupe, French Guiana and Martinique)

(Signed) I. A. L. CHANCE
for the Government of Netherlands Antilles

(Signed) Derek TAYLOR
for the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands